

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and further examination are requested. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1 and 16 are amended, and claims 21 and 22 are cancelled, leaving claims 1-20 pending with claims 1 and 16 being independent. No new matter has been added.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1-15 and 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ide (U.S. 6,361,290).

Applicants submit that the claims as now pending are allowable over the cited prior art. In particular, amended independent claim 1 recites a hermetic compressor comprising an outlet pipe having one end opening in a sound deadening space and another end opening to a compression chamber, the one end opening in the sound deadening space being disposed adjacent the first surface of the sound deadening space, wherein the outlet pipe includes a right angle bend in the sound deadening space.

As indicated by the Examiner in the Interview Summary dated February 17, 2010, Ide fails to disclose or render obvious such a claim element. Moreover, the Examiner indicated that such an amendment would overcome the rejection in view of Ide.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claim 1 and its dependent claims are allowable over the cited prior art.

Claims 16-20 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Lee (U.S. 2004/0179955).

Applicants submit that the claims as now pending are allowable over the cited prior art. In particular, amended independent claim 16 recites a hermetic compressor comprising an outlet pipe having an internal opening that opens into a sound deadening space and an external opening that opens outside the sound deadening space, wherein the outlet pipe includes a right angle bend in the sound deadening space.

As indicated by the Examiner in the Interview Summary dated February 17, 2010, Lee fails to disclose or render obvious such a claim element. Moreover, the Examiner indicated that such an amendment would overcome the rejection in view of Lee.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claim 16 and its dependent claims are allowable over the cited prior art.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all of the claims now pending in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action are respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe there are any remaining issues that must be resolved before this application can be allowed, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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/Jeffrey J. Howell/

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